

CLAREMONT CANYON

Priority Conservation Area APPLICATION

The Claremont Canyon PCA builds upon the Claremont Canyon Regional Preserve, weaving in other portions of open space that have been identified as critical by the Conservation Lands Network. Located at the very northern tip of Oakland, this PCA qualifies as a Natural Landscape through contributions to watersheds, unique habitat, and targeted parcels for conservation.

As a Natural Landscape, it benefits **Terrestrial Ecosystems, Water Supply & Water Quality** and **Aquatic Ecosystems**. Co-benefits include Recreation, Climate & Resilience and Compact Growth.

At the heart of this proposed PCA lies the Claremont Canyon Regional Preserve, a park managed by East Bay Regional Park District. It is a Bay Area Protected Area, land with conservation easements designated by the Bay Area Open Space Council (BAOSC). The preserve is zoned a Resource Conservation Area on the City of Oakland zoning maps. The PCA also includes parcels designated as Open Space by the City's Open Space, Conservation, and Recreation Element of the General Plan (OSCAR parcels). These overlapping and complementary area types demonstrate how the PCA benefits Terrestrial Ecosystems by protecting unique habitat and botanical areas of high priority, and co-benefits Recreation, Compact Growth and Climate & Resilience.

Claremont Canyon includes headwaters for several streams (such as Claremont Creek), and therefore has many Open Creeks mapped by the City of Oakland. The PCA includes one Priority Creek Restoration Site, which Oakland identified with Measure DD for restoration. There are several Undeveloped Creekside Parcels, assessed by the City of Oakland to have less than \$10,000 in improvements and which would provide an opportunity to preserve creek functions. Some of these are Priority Acquisition Creek Parcels that the City of Oakland has identified for watershed preservation. All these water features benefit Aquatic Ecosystems by protecting targeted streams, they benefit Terrestrial Ecosystems by protecting critical riparian corridors and the diversity of animals using them, and they benefit Water Supply & Water Quality by supporting watershed health and protecting downstream water uses. They provide co-benefits of Compact Growth, Climate & Resilience and Recreation.

Claremont Canyon also benefits Terrestrial Ecosystems by protecting Essential and Fragmented Habitat, determined by BAOSC's Conservation Land Network, and through its inclusion of Bay Area Critical Linkage land, as demonstrated by mapping from Science and Collaboration for Connected Wildlands. Most of the territory of the PCA falls within one of these designations, co-benefiting Climate & Resilience and Compact Growth.